

09/867,662

MAIL STOP AF

Art Unit: 1762

Response to Final Action mailed July 17, 2004

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please amend the numbered paragraphs as follows:

-- [0015] Our co-pending US patent application serial no. 09/833,711 filed on April 13, 2001 shows the surprising effect of the fourth independent variable, the total deposition pressure, on the optimization of the optical properties of various buffers (claddings), in a five-dimensional space. In this case, the five-dimensional space consists of a first independent variable, the  $\text{SiH}_4$  gas flow, typically fixed at 0.20 std litre/min; a second independent variable, the  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  gas flow, typically fixed at 6.00 std litre/min; a third independent variable, the  $\text{N}_2$  gas flow, typically fixed at 3.15 std litre/min; a fourth independent variable, the total deposition pressure, which is varied; and a fifth dimension being provided by the observed FTIR characteristics of various buffers (claddings), as reported in: Figure 1a, Figure 2a, Figure 4a, Figure 5a, Figure 6a and Figure 7a. As reported in this application the total deposition pressure can be set at 2.00 Torr; 2.10 Torr; 2.20 Torr; 2.30 Torr; 2.40 Torr; 2.50 Torr; or 2.60 Torr.--